Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

Another embodiment of the liner of the present invention has a first nonwoven layer made from staple, naturally hydrophilic fibers hydroentangled to form a laminate with a second nonwoven layer made from hydrophobic fibers, where the laminate is apertured ~~with an area~~ to produce an open area of 10 to 50 percent. The liner may further have a first layer made from hydrophilic fibers of rayon, pulp, cotton, naturally hydrophilic fibers, and mixtures thereof. The hydrophobic fibers may be made from polymers like polyolefins, polyesters, acrylics and mixtures thereof.

A1

Please replace the Brief Description of the Figures beginning at page 3, line 10 with the following amended Brief Description of the Figures:

~~Figure 1 is a diagram of a rate block used~~ in testing the materials of this invention.

Figure 2 is top view of a pantiliner exhibiting one embodiment of the present invention, shown with a portion broken away for clarity.

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Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of layered structure of the invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Material caliper (thickness): The caliper of a material is a measure of thickness and is measured at 0.05 psi (3.5 g/cm2) with a STARRET[[®]] bulk tester, in units of millimeters. Samples are cut into 4 inch by 4 inch (10.2 cm by 10.2 cm) squares and five samples are tested and the results averaged.

A3

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

The outer cover or "baffle" 27 (see Figure 2) is designed to be impermeable to liquid in order to keep the clothing or bedding of the wearer from becoming soiled. The impermeable baffle 27 is preferably made from a thin film and is generally made from plastic though other materials may be used. Nonwoven webs, films or film coated nonwovens may be used as the baffle as well. Suitable film compositions for the baffle include polyethylene film which may have an initial thickness of from about 0.5 mil (0.012 millimeter) to about 5.0 mil (0.12 millimeter). The baffle 27 may optionally be composed of a vapor or gas permeable, microporous "breathable" material, that

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is permeable to vapors or gas yet substantially impermeable to liquid. Breathability can be imparted in polymer films by, for example, using fillers in the film polymer formulation, extruding the filler/polymer formulation into a film and then stretching the film sufficiently to create voids around the filler particles, thereby making the film breathable. Generally, the more filler used and the higher the degree of stretching, the greater the degree of breathability. Other suitable thermoplastic materials like other olefins, nylons, polyesters or copolymers of, for example, polyethylene and polypropylene may also be used.

A4 CONT

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

The core portion 23 (see Figure 2) of a personal care product is designed to absorb liquids and secondarily to contain solids. The core 23, known also as an absorbent core, a retention layer, and the like, may be made with pulp and/or superabsorbent materials. These materials absorb liquids quite quickly and efficiently in order to minimize leakage. Core materials may be made according to a number of processes including the coform process, airlaying, and bonding and carding and should be between 50 and 350 gsm.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

~~The inventors have found~~ The invention finds that it is advantageous to have a hydrophilic layer 41 (see Figure 3) as the outermost bodyside part of the liner 31, in contact with the wearer. This results in a very rapid absorption of fluids. A hydrophilic liner over an absorbent core, however, will in many cases allow liquid to move upwardly from the core toward the wearer again and "rewet" the skin of the wearer. It will also allow liquid to spread from the target area to the sides of the pad so that the stained area is much larger than that, for example, of a film covered pad. These are regarded as significant negative factors in the design of disposable personal care products since they can result in staining of clothing and bedding, and discomfort to the wearer.

A6

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

If a hydrophobic layer 42 (see Figure 3) is placed below the hydrophilic ~~liner~~ layer 41, the ability of liquid to move upwardly from the wetted core is significantly reduced. This results in much better "rewet" values, smaller stain sizes, reduced stain color intensity, and helps keep the wearer drier. Unfortunately, a hydrophobic layer 42 immediately below the hydrophilic layer 41 also impedes the movement of liquid from the wearer to the absorbent core, causing pooling of liquid on the liner. This can ultimately result in runoff and staining of the clothing and bedding, the very problem that the hydrophobic layer 42 was attempting to solve.

A7

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

~~The inventors have solved~~ The invention solves the problem posed by the hydrophobic layer 42 in two ways; by aperturing the layers and by joining them using a laminating process involving no chemical or thermal bonding processes.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

Aperturing of the hydrophilic layer 41 and hydrophobic layer 42 provides a rapid, open pathway to the absorbent core for liquid from the surface of the liner. This solves the problem posed by the hydrophobic layer's barrier to liquid passage. Once liquid passes through the apertures 55 (see Figures 2 and 3), it tends to spread out below the hydrophobic layer and go into the absorbent core 23. Since the apertures 55 are but a small percentage of the surface area of the hydrophilic/hydrophobic liner 31, the amount of liquid going back upward through them is significantly smaller than the amount of liquid that can pass upwardly through the hydrophilic ~~liner~~ layer 42 alone.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

Synthetic fibers include those made from polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters, acrylics, LYOCELL[[®]] regenerated cellulose, Lenzing's viscose rayon, and any other suitable hydrophobic synthetic fibers known to those skilled in the art. Many polyolefins are available for fiber production, for example polyethylenes such as Dow Chemical's ASPUN[[®]] 6811A liner low

A10

density polyethylene, 2553 LLDPE and 25355 and 12350 high density polyethylene are such suitable polymers. The polyethylenes have melt flow rates, respectively, of about 26, 40, 25 and 12. Fiber forming polypropylenes include Kolon Glotec's T-1001, Exxon Chemical Company's ESCORENE[[®]] PD 3445 and Montell Chemical Co.'s PF304. Other polyolefins are also available. Fibers having a lower melting polymer component, like conjugate and biconstituent fibers are suitable for use as well. Such fibers include conjugate fibers of polyolefins, polyamides and polyesters like the sheath core conjugate fibers available from KoSa Inc. (Charlotte, North Carolina) under the designation T-255 and T-256.

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